The proceedings commenced at 12 noon, M. E. Watts Esq., B. A., Barrister-at-Law, Dewan, presiding. Among those present were O. S. Ramaswami Iyer Esq., B. A., B. E., C. E., Devaswom Commissioner, H. S. Chatfield Esq., M. A., Barrister-at-Law, Chief Justice, Major G. F. Turner, M. C., Commandant, Nayar Brigade, Heads of the various Departments and Offices, members of the Legislative Council and several other official and non-official ladies and gentlemen.

Copies of the Dewan's opening address in English, Malayalam, and Tamil were distributed to the members, as also copies of the Administration Report of the State for 1103 M. E. in English and Malayalam, of the report on the Administration of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for 1103 M. E. in English and Malayalam, of the Statistics of Travancore for 1103 M. E. in English, and of the memoranda of subjects for representation at the session in English, Malayalam, and Tamil. Copies of the Statement of Action taken on the pending representations at the 22nd, 23rd and 24th sessions of the Assembly were also distributed to the members.

The Dewan then opened the session with the following

ADDRESS.

"GENTLEMEN,

For the fourth year in succession it is my privilege to welcome you to this Assembly by gracious command of Her Highness the Maharani Regent. This is the twenty-fifth session and therefore a jubilee year in the life of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

A Retrospect.

2. The day is almost epoch-making and one naturally pauses to look back and appraise values. It was in 1904 that this truly representative institution was called into being to afford an opporunity to the people of expressing direct to the Government their wants and wishes and of representing their views regarding administrative measures adopted by the Government from time to time. That is the purpose of the Assembly so far as you, its members, are concerned. There is also another purpose and that is to enable the Government to learn at first hand how their actions affect the people and to gain the benefit of the people's suggestions as to what may be necessary to promote administrative efficiency and to improve the condition of the country. There are many among you who have come here as representatives year after year and there are many among you who have made a close study of the proceedings of the Assembly and of the administrative acts of the Government during the last quarter of a century. I, too, have made the study and I find that in the proceedings of the Assembly was sown many a seed which grew to fruition as reforms and administrative measures carried out from time to time. There is nothing surprising in the fact that the acts of the Government should thus be attuned to the voice of the people when a complete harmony of interests prevails

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly